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NORTH CAROLINA LIFE TABLES
for
1973 and 1974

Nanak Chand, Ph.D.
Charles J. Rothwell, M.B.A., M.S.

July 10, 1975

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PREFACE

The intent of this report is to provide health administrators and researchers an alternative method of examining the mortality environment of North Carolina. The report contains 1973 and 1974 life tables and will be updated on an annual basis.

We are indebted to the personnel of the Biostatistics Unit, especially Kathryn Surles, Paul Johnson, Clara Tessenear and Rhonda Johnson for their support in the development and publication of this report. We are especially indebted to Sandra Goodwin for the typing of the manuscript.

I. INTRODUCTION

Life tables are one form of combining mortality rates of a population at different ages into a single statistical model. Such tables are generated from age-specific mortality rates and the resulting values are used to measure mortality, survivorship, and life expectation. One of the main advantages of life tables is that they eliminate the need of adoption of a standard population for acceptable comparisons of levels of mortality in different populations.

There are two types of life tables: the generation or cohort life table and the current life table. The generation life table is based on the mortality rates experienced by a particular birth cohort, e.g., all persons born in the year 1900. According to this form of life table, the mortality experience of the persons in the cohort would be observed from their moment of birth through each consecutive age in successive calendar years, until the death of the final member of the cohort.

The second type of table, the current life table, is based on experience over a short period of time, such as a year or an intercensal period, in which mortality has remained substantially the same. Commonly, the death statistics used for a current life table relate to this short period, and the population data used relate to the middle of this period. Thus a current life table is a summary description of mortality during this period. In this report the term "life table" refers to the current life table and not to the generation life table. The table is abridged in that it contains data by intervals of 5 or 10 years of age, in contrast to a complete life table which contains data for each year of age from birth to the last age specified in the table.

North Carolina Life Tables for 1973 and 1974

The data used to prepare the abridged N. C. life tables are the final mortality statistics and the midyear estimates of the population, given in the Baseline Statistics for Needs Assessment (1) for 1973, and provided by the Office of State Planning of the North Carolina Department of Administration for 1974. Sample lifetable statistics for measuring longevity are shown in Table A. The text examples refer to the life table values for the 1974 total population (Table 2.1).

Table A

Selected Life Table Values, by Age, Color and Sex: North Carolina, 1973 and 1974

VALUE	TOTAL	WHITE		NON-WHITE	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Expectation of Life:					
At Birth					
1973	68.90	66.68	74.70	59.06	67.56
1974	69.87	67.54	75.44	60.13	69.04
At Age 1					
1973	69.32	66.91	74.88	59.86	68.32
1974	70.16	67.77	75.40	60.74	69.59
At Age 25					
1973	46.64	44.37	51.67	37.92	45.43
1974	47.30	44.99	52.14	38.48	46.67
At Age 65					
1973	13.95	12.32	15.88	11.61	13.95
1974	14.23	12.56	16.07	11.89	14.49
Percent Surviving From Birth:					
To Age 1					
1973	97.97	98.19	98.44	97.04	97.45
1974	98.19	98.20	98.75	97.38	97.79
To Age 25					
1973	95.69	95.49	97.21	92.79	95.56
1974	96.21	95.99	97.59	93.74	95.96
To Age 65					
1973	68.61	63.17	82.03	44.99	65.05
1974	70.51	65.13	83.35	46.16	68.46
Median Age at Death:					
1973	73.52	70.35	79.92	62.58	72.01
1974	74.40	71.03	80.34	63.17	73.51

II. LIFE TABLE MEASURES OF LONGEVITY

Expectation of Life

The most frequently used life table statistic is the expectation of life ($\overset{\circ}{e}_x$), i.e., the average remaining lifetime in years for persons who have attained a given age (x). Expectation of life for specified ages is shown in the last column of the life tables.

Life expectancy at birth ($\overset{\circ}{e}_o$) is 69.87 years (Table 2.1), which represents the average number of years that the members of the life table cohort may expect to live at the time of birth. Table A shows the higher life expectancy of females as compared with males within each color group, and of whites as compared with non-whites. At age 1, life expectancy is 70.16 years which is higher than at birth. This is a result of surviving the first year, when the mortality rate is quite high. Remaining years of expected lifetime are also shown in Table A for ages 25 and 65 years.

Survivors to Specified Ages

Another way of assessing the longevity of the life table cohort is by determining the proportion of it that lives to specified ages. The l_x column of Tables 1.1-2.5 is the numerator and the cohort population (100,000) is the denominator of this proportion. Sample survivorship, by color and sex, is shown as percentages in Table A.

Median Age at Death

The median age at death is the age at which half of the initial cohort (50,000 persons) still remain alive, and half have died (4). This value is shown in Table A by color and sex. For example. the median age for white females is 79.92 years for 1973 and 80.34 years for 1974.

III. EXPLANATIONS OF THE COLUMNS OF THE LIFE TABLES

The life table model conceptually traces a cohort of new-born babies through their entire life, under the assumption that they are subject to the current observed schedule of age-specific mortality rates. The cohort of new-born babies, called the radix of the table, is assumed to be 100,000. The interpretations of the life table functions in Tables 1.1-2.5 are given below. Specific examples refer to the North Carolina 1974 total population (Table 2.1).

$\underline{x \text{ to } x{+}n}$ - The period of life between two exact ages, where x is the beginning age of the interval and n is the length of the interval. For example, "15-20" means the 5-year interval between the 15th and 20th birthdays.

$\underline{{}_nq_x}$ - The proportion of persons in the cohort alive at the beginning of an indicated age interval (x) who would die before reaching the end of that age interval ($x{+}n$). For example, the proportion dying in the age interval 25-30 is .00797. Thus, out of every ten thousand persons alive and exactly 25 years old at the beginning of the period, 80 would die before reaching their 30th birthday. Therefore, the ${}_nq_x$ values represent probabilities that a person at his xth birthday would die before reaching his $x{+}n$th birthday.

$\underline{l_x}$ - The number of persons living at the beginning of the indicated age interval (x), out of the total number of assumed live births. Thus out of 100,000 babies born alive, 98,185 would complete the first year of life and enter the second; 97,878 would begin the sixth year, 96,213 would reach age 25; and 21,483 would live to age 85.

$\underline{{}_n d_x}$ - The number of persons who would die within the indicated age interval (*x to x+n*) out of the total number of assumed live births. Thus there would be 662 deaths between exact ages 20-25 to the initial cohort of 100,000 new-born babies.

$\underline{{}_n L_x}$ - The number of person-years that would be lived within the indicated age interval (*x to x+n*) by the initially assumed cohort. Thus the 100,000 new-born babies would live 482,761 person-years between exact ages 20 and 25.

$\underline{T_x}$ - The total number of person-years that would be lived after the beginning of the indcated age interval by the initial cohort. Thus the 100,000 new-born babies would live 4,551,074 person-years after their 25th birthday.

$\underline{\overset{\circ}{e}_x}$ - The average remaining life time (in years) for a person who survives to the beginning of the indicated age interval. Thus a person who reaches age 20 should expect to live 51.96 years more, on the average.

IV. METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS

According to an observed mortality rate, the proportion ${}_nq_x$ was obtained from the tables given by Reed and Merrell (2,3). Other columns of the life table are obtained according to their definitions from the ${}_nq_x$ values, i.e., for $x = 0, 1, 5, \ldots$.

$${}_nd_x = l_x \; {}_nq_x = l_x - l_{x+n}$$

$$\overset{\circ}{e}_x = T_x/l_x \,,$$

and

$${}_nL_x = T_x - T_{x+n} \,.$$

The calculation of the T_x values for ages 5 and over is based on the assumption that the area under the l_x curve between any two ordinates can be approximated by the area under a parabola through these two ordinates and the preceding and the following ordinates. Reed and Merrell separation factors are assumed for ages under 5, i.e.,

$$L_\circ = .276 l_\circ + .724 l_1$$

$${}_4L_1 = .034 l_\circ + 1.184 l_1 + 2.782 l_5$$

The open-ended interval values of the last three functions of the table were obtained by extrapolating the $\overset{\circ}{e}_x$ values.

V. TABLES

Table 1.1

Abridged Life Table for the Total Population: North Carolina, 1973

Age Interval (x to x+n)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.02027	100,000	2,027	98,532	6,889,952	68.90
1-5	.00375	97,973	367	390,940	6,791,420	69.32
5-10	.00264	97,606	258	487,360	6,400,480	65.57
10-15	.00255	97,348	248	486,206	5,913,120	60.74
15-20	.00688	97,100	668	483,933	5,426,914	55.89
20-25	.00772	96,432	744	480,325	4,942,981	51.26
25-30	.00822	95,688	787	476,528	4,462,656	46.64
30-35	.01065	94,901	1,011	472,111	3,986,128	42.00
35-40	.01519	93,890	1,426	466,101	3,514,017	37.43
40-45	.02217	92,464	2,050	457,559	3,047,916	32.96
45-50	.03512	90,414	3,175	444,671	2,590,357	28.65
50-55	.05311	87,239	4,633	425,182	2,145,686	24.60
55-60	.07149	82,606	5,906	398,985	1,720,504	20.83
60-65	.10546	76,700	8,089	364,117	1,321,519	17.23
65-70	.14488	68,611	9,940	319,087	957,402	13.95
70-75	.20997	58,671	12,319	263,200	638,315	10.88
75-80	.28100	46,352	13,025	199,496	375,115	8.09
80-85	.41261	33,327	13,751	127,658	175,619	5.27
85+	1.00000	19,576	19,576	47,961	47,961	2.45

Table 1.2

Abridged Life Table for White Males: North Carolina, 1973

Age Interval (x to $x+n$)	$_nq_x$	l_x	$_nd_x$	$_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.01815	100,000	1,815	98,686	6,667,848	66.68
1-5	.00363	98,185	356	391,811	6,569,162	66.91
5-10	.00260	97,829	254	488,489	6,177,351	63.14
10-15	.00260	97,575	254	487,378	5,688,862	58.30
15-20	.00941	97,321	916	484,452	5,201,484	53.45
20-25	.00946	96,405	912	479,737	4,717,032	48.93
25-30	.00921	95,493	879	475,290	4,237,295	44.37
30-35	.01075	94,614	1,017	470,649	3,762,005	39.76
35-50	.01564	93,597	1,464	464,540	3,291,356	35.17
40-45	.02227	92,133	2,052	455,970	2,826,816	30.68
45-50	.03942	90,081	3,551	442,233	2,370,846	26.32
50-55	.06281	86,530	5,435	419,896	1,928,613	22.29
55-60	.09315	81,095	7,554	387,619	1,508,717	18.60
60-65	.14107	73,541	10,374	342,743	1,121,098	15.24
65-70	.19351	63,167	12,223	285,907	778,355	12.32
70-75	.26290	50,944	13,393	221,466	492,448	9.67
75-80	.35485	37,551	13,325	154,136	270,982	7.22
80-85	.49194	24,226	11,918	87,061	116,846	4.82
85+	1.00000	12,308	12,308	29,785	29,785	2.42

Table 1.3

Abridged Life Table for White Females: North Carolina, 1973

Age Interval (x to $x+n$)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.01561	100,000	1,561	98,870	7,469,553	74.70
1-5	.00246	98,439	242	393,136	7,370,683	74.88
5-10	.00195	98,197	191	490,492	6,977,547	71.06
10-15	.00170	98,006	167	489,648	6,487,055	66.19
15-20	.00374	97,839	366	488,302	5,997,407	61.30
20-25	.00275	97,473	268	486,682	5,509,105	56.52
25-30	.00315	97,205	306	485,308	5,022,423	51.67
30-35	.00514	96,899	498	483,335	4,537,115	46.82
35-40	.00742	96,401	715	480,337	4,053,780	42.05
40-45	.01119	95,686	1,071	475,944	3,573,443	37.35
45-50	.01726	94,615	1,633	469,302	3,097,499	32.74
50-55	.02750	92,982	2,557	458,934	2,628,197	28.27
55-60	.04019	90,425	3,634	443,499	2,169,263	23.99
60-65	.05486	86,791	4,761	422,758	1,725,764	19.88
65-70	.08558	82,030	7,020	393,845	1,303,006	15.88
70-75	.14315	75,010	10,738	349,762	909,161	12.12
75-80	.22544	64,272	14,490	286,808	559,399	8.70
80-85	.37702	49,782	18,769	202,502	272,591	5.48
85+	1.00000	31,013	31,013	70,089	70,089	2.26

Table 1.4

Abridged Life Table for Non-White Males:
North Carolina, 1973

Age Interval (x to $x+n$)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.02963	100,000	2,963	97,855	5,906,490	59.06
1-5	.00674	97,037	654	386,429	5,808,635	59.86
5-10	.00399	96,383	385	480,903	5,422,206	56.26
10-15	.00434	95,998	417	479,092	4,941,303	51.47
15-20	.01129	95,581	1,079	475,477	4,462,211	46.69
20-25	.01810	94,502	1,710	468,495	3,986,734	42.19
25-30	.02506	92,792	2,325	458,416	3,518,239	37.92
30-35	.03318	90,467	3,002	445,194	3,059,823	33.82
35-40	.04657	87,465	4,073	427,566	2,614,629	29.89
40-45	.06036	83,392	5,034	404,969	2,187,063	26.23
45-50	.08834	78,358	6,922	375,172	1,782,094	22.74
50-55	.11663	71,436	8,332	336,525	1,406,922	19.69
55-60	.12303	63,104	7,764	296,531	1,070,397	16.96
60-65	.18705	55,340	10,351	251,391	773,866	13.98
65-70	.23326	44,989	10,494	198,812	522,475	11.61
70-75	.31431	34,495	10,842	144,785	323,663	9.38
75-80	.32479	23,653	7,682	98,305	178,878	7.56
80-85	.45211	15,971	7,221	58,523	80,573	5.04
85+	1.00000	8,750	8,750	22,050	22,050	2.52

Table 1.5

Abridged Life Table for Non-White Females: North Carolina, 1973

Age Interval (x to x+n)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.02547	100,000	2,547	98,156	6,756,217	67.56
1-5	.00449	97,453	438	388,680	6,658,061	68.32
5-10	.00300	97,015	291	484,311	6,269,381	64.62
10-15	.00270	96,724	261	482,975	5,785,070	59.81
15-20	.00339	96,463	327	481,563	5,302,095	54.97
20-25	.00598	96,136	575	479,348	4,820,532	50.14
25-30	.00871	95,561	832	475,864	4,341,184	45.43
30-35	.01312	94,729	1,243	470,724	3,865,320	40.80
35-40	.01849	93,486	1,729	463,499	3,394,596	36.31
40-45	.03401	91,757	3,121	451,459	2,931,097	31.94
45-50	.04533	88,636	4,018	433,626	2,479,638	27.98
50-55	.06474	84,618	5,478	409,763	2,046,012	24.18
55-60	.07307	79,140	5,783	381,831	1,636,249	20.68
60-65	.11319	73,357	8,303	346,875	1,254,418	17.10
65-70	.15144	65,054	9,852	301,601	907,543	13.95
70-75	.23393	55,202	12,913	244,004	605,942	10.98
75-80	.26437	42,289	11,180	182,882	361,938	8.56
80-85	.32053	31,109	9,971	116,488	179,056	5.76
85+	1.00000	21,138	21,138	62,568	62,568	2.96

Table 2.1

Abridged Life Table for the Total Population: North Carolina, 1974

Age Interval (x to $x+n$)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.01815	100,000	1,815	98,686	6,987,029	69.87
1-5	.00313	98,185	307	391,948	6,888,343	70.16
5-10	.00225	97,878	220	488,820	6,496,395	66.37
10-15	.00215	97,658	210	487,839	6,007,575	61.52
15-20	.00588	97,448	573	485,901	5,519,736	56.64
20-25	.00683	96,875	662	482,761	5,033,835	51.96
25-30	.00797	96,213	767	479,191	4,551,074	47.30
30-35	.00916	95,446	874	475,140	4,071,883	42.66
35-40	.01292	94,572	1,222	470,037	3,596,743	38.03
40-45	.02129	93,350	1,987	462,149	3,126,706	33.49
45-50	.03265	91,363	2,983	449,850	2,664,557	29.16
50-55	.04925	88,380	4,353	431,566	2,214,707	25.06
55-60	.06680	84,027	5,613	406,843	1,783,141	21.22
60-65	.10084	78,414	7,907	373,213	1,376,298	17.55
65-70	.14159	70,507	9,983	328,423	1,003,085	14.23
70-75	.19773	60,524	11,967	273,333	674,662	11.15
75-80	.26798	48,557	13,012	210,692	401,329	8.27
80-85	.39562	35,545	14,062	138,004	190,637	5.36
85+	1.00000	21,483	21,483	52,633	52,633	2.45

Table 2.2

Abridged Life Table for White Males: North Carolina, 1974

Age Interval (x to $x+n$)	$_nq_x$	l_x	$_nd_x$	$_nL_x$	T_x	$\overset{\circ}{e}_x$
0-1	.01802	100,000	1,802	98,695	6,753,500	67.54
1-5	.00266	98,198	261	393,127	6,654,805	67.77
5-10	.00245	97,937	240	489,081	6,262,678	63.95
10-15	.00250	97,697	244	487,984	5,773,597	59.10
15-20	.00782	97,453	762	485,456	5,285,613	54.24
20-25	.00728	96,691	704	481,701	4,800,157	49.64
25-30	.00827	95,987	794	478,000	4,318,456	44.99
30-35	.00990	95,193	942	473,691	3,840,456	40.34
35-40	.01253	94,251	1,181	468,535	3,366,765	35.72
40-45	.02212	93,070	2,059	460,674	2,898,230	31.14
45-50	.03783	91,011	3,443	447,119	2,437,556	26.78
50-55	.06036	87,568	5,286	425,378	1,990,437	22.73
55-60	.08577	82,282	7,057	394,769	1,565,059	19.02
60-65	.13417	75,225	10,093	351,992	1,170,290	15.56
65-70	.18936	65,132	12,333	295,543	818,298	12.56
70-75	.25623	52,799	13,529	230,302	522,755	9.90
75-80	.32982	39,270	12,952	163,792	292,453	7.45
80-85	.48169	26,318	12,677	96,877	128,661	4.89
85+	1.00000	13,641	12,641	31,784	31,784	2.33

Table 2.3

Abridged Life Table for White Females: North Carolina, 1974

Age Interval (x to x+n)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\overset{\circ}{e}_x$
0-1	.01253	100,000	1,253	99,093	7,544,425	75.44
1-5	.00239	98,747	236	394,374	7,445,332	75.40
5-10	.00195	98,511	192	492,051	7,050,958	71.58
10-15	.00125	98,319	123	491,314	6,558,907	66.71
15-20	.00325	98,196	319	490,216	6,067,593	61.79
20-25	.00290	97,877	284	488,671	5,577,377	56.98
25-30	.00305	97,593	298	487,241	5,088,706	52.14
30-35	.00399	97,295	388	485,570	4,601,465	47.29
35-40	.00628	96,907	609	483,144	4,115,895	42.47
40-45	.01060	96,298	1,021	479,153	3,632,751	37.72
45-50	.01721	95,277	1,640	472,552	3,153,598	33.10
50-55	.02457	93,637	2,301	462,748	2,681,046	28.63
55-60	.03454	91,336	3,155	449,320	2,218,298	24.29
60-65	.05482	88,181	4,834	429,649	1,768,978	20.06
65-70	.08563	83,347	7,137	400,029	1,339,329	16.07
70-75	.13501	76,210	10,289	356,905	939,300	12.33
75-80	.22310	65,921	14,707	294,416	582,395	8.83
80-85	.34889	51,214	17,868	207,615	287,979	5.62
85+	1.00000	33,346	33,346	80,364	80,364	2.41

Table 2.4

Abridged Life Table for Non-white Males: North Carolina, 1974

Age Interval (x to $x+n$)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.02617	100,000	2,617	98,105	6,012,796	60.13
1-5	.00465	97,383	453	388,261	5,914,691	60.74
5-10	.00275	96,930	267	483,961	5,526,330	57.01
10-15	.00364	96,663	352	482,574	5,042,369	52.16
15-20	.00966	96,311	930	479,497	4,559,795	47.34
20-25	.01716	95,381	1,637	473,128	4,080,298	42.78
25-30	.02608	93,744	2,445	462,779	3,607,170	38.48
30-35	.02691	91,299	2,457	450,606	3,144,391	34.44
35-40	.04125	88,842	3,665	435,657	2,693,785	30.32
40-45	.06319	85,177	5,382	412,963	2,258,128	26.51
45-50	.07800	79,795	6,224	383,943	1,845,165	23.12
50-55	.10758	73,571	7,915	348,641	1,461,222	19.86
55-60	.13675	65,656	8,978	306,377	1,112,581	16.95
60-65	.18556	56,678	10,517	257,392	806,204	14.22
65-70	.22504	46,161	10,388	204,757	548,812	11.89
70-75	.28358	35,773	10,144	153,216	344,055	9.62
75-80	.35121	25,629	9,001	105,009	190,839	7.45
80-85	.42728	16,628	7,105	58,499	85,830	5.16
85+	1.00000	9,523	9,523	27,331	27,331	2.87

Table 2.5

Abridged Life Table for Non-white Females: North Carolina, 1974

Age Interval (x to x+n)	${}_nq_x$	l_x	${}_nd_x$	${}_nL_x$	T_x	$\mathring{e}_x$
0-1	.02206	100,000	2,206	98,403	6,903,539	69.04
1-5	.00496	97,794	485	389,902	6,805,136	69.59
5-10	.00185	97,309	180	486,033	6,415,234	65.93
10-15	.00195	97,129	189	485,209	5,929,201	61.04
15-20	.00364	96,940	353	483,908	5,443,992	56.16
20-25	.00648	96,587	626	481,482	4,960,084	51.35
25-30	.00926	95,961	889	477,691	4,478,602	46.67
30-35	.01203	95,072	1,144	472,662	4,000,911	42.08
35-40	.01775	93,928	1,667	465,762	3,528,249	37.56
40-45	.02750	92,261	2,537	455,320	3,062,487	33.19
45-50	.03768	89,724	3,381	440,696	2,607,167	29.06
50-55	.05875	86,343	5,073	491,461	2,166,471	25.09
55-60	.06694	81,270	5,440	393,229	1,747,010	21.50
60-65	.09721	75,830	7,371	361,655	1,353,781	17.85
65-70	.14484	68,459	9,916	318,507	992,126	14.49
70-75	.20807	58,543	12,181	262,285	673,619	11.51
75-80	.21618	46,362	10,023	206,854	411,334	8.87
80-85	.34858	36,339	12,667	147,904	204,480	5.63
85+	1.00000	23,672	23,672	56,576	56,576	2.39

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